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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 22 | Humidity 66% Rain Sensex 76,488 | Nifty 24,031 | Gold 1,59,335 | Silver 2,76,260 | Dollar 95.19 | Euro 110.90 | GBP 128.54

VROOM TOWN

Speeding is common in Bengaluru Metropolitan Region, but in rural stretches, all drivers seem to be footloose and fancy free

PAGE 3

BRANCH MANAGER

After surge of tree fall incidents, Greater Bengaluru Authority plans to create geo-tagged risk registers for avenue trees

PAGE 4

As city's elderly population estimated to be about 12.4% grows, need for affordable care centres, trained caregivers and awareness programmes becomes vital to deal with illnesses such as Alzheimer's and dementia

FADE TO BLACK

Delayed diagnosis, changing family structures, caregiver burnout fuel crisis

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Soma, a resident of JP Nagar and ex teacher, has been a caregiver for her mother, who has an advanced stage of dementia for over four years now. For Soma, the emotional exhaustion, often invisible to outsiders, is the hardest part to deal with.

"Most people think it is a mere memory loss, but it changes the entire household. Some days, my mom forgets my name, my siblings' names, other days she wakes up frightened at night or refuses to eat. We are always on our feet as we fear she might fall while walking alone or go away. The saddest part to watch is someone slowly losing pieces of themselves while trying to remain patient every single day," she says.

Bengaluru's elderly population is estimated at 12.4 percent and as this number grows, psychiatrists and neurologists raise concerns over a silent but rapidly increasing crisis -- Alzheimer's and dementia among seniors.

Though awareness has improved over the years, delayed diagnosis, changing family structures, caregiver burnout and lifestyle related illnesses have further fueled the crisis.

Doctors say that many families fail to recognise dementia symptoms and often brush it off as a sign of normal ageing until the conditions begin to affect daily functioning and safety.

"Families ignore repeated forgetfulness, trouble finding words, confusion about dates or familiar places, and the habit of asking the same questions repeatedly. Other frequent signs include misplacing things and changes in judgement or decision making that become noticeable to others. Early diagnosis matters because timely treatment and structured support can help slow the condition down and improve quality of life,"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

> **"Delayed diagnosis remains one of the biggest concerns. Families usually approach hospitals only after wandering, falls, aggression, financial mismanagement or inability to recognise relatives begin affecting safety**
>
> —Dr. Vikram Arunachalam, senior psychiatrist

Patch-work at Gandhi Bazar

As sinkholes keep appearing on footpaths of newly-developed marketplace, questions raised over quality of work

KAUSHIK JN

The sinkhole on a footpath at Gandhi Bazar was filled up on Monday

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On Monday, a hasty repair work was carried out at Gandhi Bazar. This was to fix a sinkhole that had developed on a footpath at the newly-developed market place.

As sinkholes keep appearing on the entire stretch of the footpath, residents of the area, shop owners, and pedestrians have questioned the quality of developmental works carried out here.

Many blame the contractor for the poor quality of work and the authorities concerned for not inspecting the work that was taken up using tax-payers' money. "Heavy vehicles are parked on the footpath as there is no regulation of parking on this road. Pedestrians have been facing a lot of problems due to sinkholes and haphazard parking of vehicles," said a shop owner pleading anonymity.

Krishna K, a pedestrian, said Gandhi Bazar was opened to the public barely 18 months ago. "Looking at the sinkholes and broken tiles on the footpath, the poor quality of work becomes evident.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

THINGS TO DO

01 Movie magic

Cinema & Beyond is hosting The Cinema Of Bimal Roy, a three-hour immersive journey into the artistry of Bimal Roy's films— exploring stories, emotions, memorable scenes and timeless songs that continue to resonate with audiences.
Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar;
When: May 31, 4 pm

02 Handicraft haven

Dastkar Bazaar presents its 25th edition with 160+ craft groups bringing authentic handcrafted merchandise across textiles, pottery, jewellery and wellness products, while also supporting artisans affected by the recent Delhi fire.
Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel;
When: May 29 to June 4, 10.30 am to 8 pm

03 Chartbuster tunes

Rudraksha Live Entertainment Pvt Ltd presents Jazbaa, a concert featuring Vishal and Rekha Bhardwaj — a powerhouse duo in Indian music and cinema, known for their deeply moving collaborations and individual brilliance.
Where: Phoenix Marketcity;
When: May 30, 7 pm

04 Into the jungle

The Galleria Mall has transformed into a Jungle Book-themed destination for children and families, with an immersive experience featuring larger-than-life animatronic displays of iconic characters along with workshops, performances and more.
Where: The Galleria Mall, Yelahanka;
When: Until June 7, 12 pm onwards

05 Premium pavilion

Loco Lane transforms match-day into a premium fan sanctuary, offering all-inclusive IPL screenings with gourmet dining and the comfort of premium box seating for an elevated experience.
Where: Loco Lane, Ashok Nagar;
When: Until May 31, 5 pm

Schools, parents uneasy over CBSE's Class 9 language shift

Many say new policy could disrupt academic planning, compel students to abandon foreign languages, jeopardise future overseas opportunities and intensify academic pressure

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Some argue move may put additional pressure on students already preparing for board exams and competitive entrance tests (File photo)

A major language policy change introduced by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has triggered concern among parents, students and schools across Bengaluru, with many questioning the timing and preparedness for its implementation. From July 1, 2026, CBSE has made it compulsory for all Class 9 students to study three languages, of which at least two must be native Indian languages. The move, aimed at promoting multilingualism under the National Education Policy (NEP), has effectively reduced combinations where students earlier studied English along with a foreign language such as German or French.

Several Bengaluru schools say the sudden announcement has disrupted academic planning as many CBSE schools began the new academic year in April-May before the summer break. Parents argue that children who have spent years learning foreign languages may now be forced to discontinue them midway, affecting future plans including overseas education opportunities. Many also fear that introducing a completely new Indian language at the Class 9 level could place additional academic pressure on students already preparing for board exams and competitive entrance tests.

The impact is expected to be particularly significant in Bengaluru, where a section of CBSE schools offers foreign languages and caters to families from diverse linguistic and professional backgrounds, including expatriates and IT sector employees. Several students in the city opt for German, French or other foreign languages from middle school onwards, often with the aim of pursuing higher studies abroad. Parents say the new rule could dilute that advantage at a crucial academic stage.

Schools flag implementation challenges, warning sudden policy change could worsen shortages of qualified language teachers and confuse classrooms by introducing new subjects midway with uneven student proficiency

Teachers and school administrators have also raised concerns over implementation challenges. Schools say there is already a shortage of qualified language teachers, especially for regional Indian languages. Introducing new subjects midway through the academic cycle could create confusion in classrooms where students possess varying levels of language proficiency. Educators point out that there are no standard bridge courses or support materials to help students who may be learning a new language from scratch in Class 9.

Academic pressure

K Ratna, a school teacher, said, "We also fear that accommodating additional language periods within existing timetables may force them to reduce time allocated for sports, library sessions, arts and life-skills education. Administrators say hiring new teachers would place an added financial burden on institutions already dealing with rising operational costs. Teachers are also worried about increased workload linked to teaching, assessments and evaluations for multiple language groups."

CBSE has defended the move, saying the policy intends to strengthen Indian language learning, deepen cultural connections and align school education with NEP recommendations encouraging multilingual learning. The board has also clarified that students will not have to write a Class 10 board examination for the third language.

Pradeep Kumar, a parent, said, "We believe the issue is not the idea of multilingualism itself, but the abrupt implementation of a major academic reform after the school year had already begun. With schools now scrambling to adjust timetables and staffing plans, the debate over whether the policy promotes cultural inclusion or creates unnecessary academic stress is only intensifying."

BBP's animal adoption drive sees revival

Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) has recorded a sharp rise in revenue from its animal adoption programme after introducing new guidelines and promotional efforts to attract more sponsors. The zoo earned over Rs 80 lakh under the scheme in 2025-26, a jump of more than Rs 30 lakh compared to the previous year. Officials said the park expanded the adoption tenure from one year to five years, introduced naming rights for adopted animals and stepped up outreach through social media and celebrity engagement. Actress Samyukta Hornad recently adopted a tiger named Sinchana for a year by paying Rs 2 lakh.

The adoption programme allows individuals and organisations to sponsor animals ranging from elephants, tigers and lions to birds and reptiles. BBP houses 26 elephants, 20 tigers, 27 lions, 85 leopards and 56 bears, among other species. Adoption fees range from Rs 1,000 to Rs 3 lakh annually depending on the animal category. Adopters receive certificates, name boards near enclosures and free entry passes for up to five years. Officials said the initiative, which witnessed record collections of Rs 1.92 crore during the Covid period due to donations and food sponsorships, is now slowly recovering after a dip in the past few years. **–BMB**

File photo of tigers at Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP)

Govt takes over 108 ambulance service, rolls out new tech upgrades

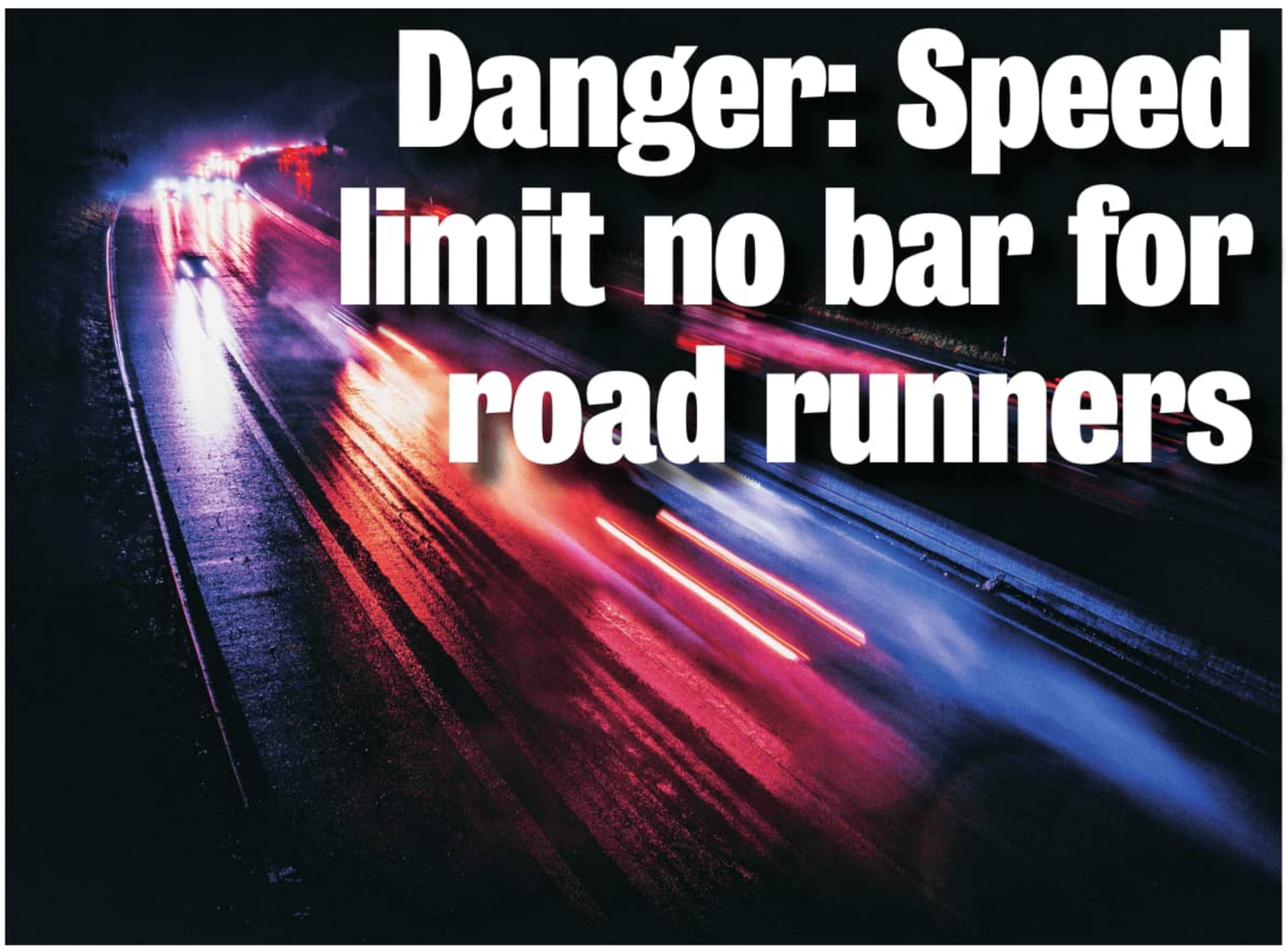
The Health Department has officially taken over the state's 108 ambulance service. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said it was a major upgrade to the public emergency healthcare system. Operating under the slogan "One call to us, emergency service to you," the Health Department has introduced a government-run, tech-enabled model backed by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. A state-of-the-art 24/7 command and control centre has also been launched as part of the revamp.

The 108 service, launched in 2008, was earlier operated by a private agency and had faced several operational issues. Following the CM's announcement in the 2025-26 Budget, the government studied multiple global models, including Singapore's emergency response system, before deciding to run the service directly.

A pilot project was first implemented in Chamarajanagar district. Government-owned C-DAC developed the software powering the new system. **–BMB**

108 ambulance service had earlier faced operational issues (File photo)

Danger: Speed limit no bar for road runners



Study shows 30% drivers exceed prescribed speed limits, with rural areas recording far higher speeding than urban zones

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A large-scale roadside study conducted in the Bengaluru Metropolitan Region (BMR) has found that nearly 30% of drivers exceed prescribed speed limits, with rural areas recording significantly higher speeding rates compared to urban zones. The findings are part of a research paper titled 'Urban and Rural Differences in Driver Speeds and Associated Factors: Results From a Large-Scale Roadside Study in India' published in the Journal of Road Safety.

The study, which analysed 172,164 motor vehicles across 25 locations, shows that overall median vehicle speed in the BMR is 50 km/h. However, in rural areas, the median speed rises to 57 km/h—7 km/h higher than the regional average. Researchers also observed that speeding prevalence is significantly higher in rural areas (39.9%) compared to urban areas (24.3%).

The study further highlights clear temporal variations in driving behaviour. In both urban and rural districts, speeds were higher during the morning, followed by a decline through the day, and then another increase around 2 pm in rural areas and 4 pm in urban areas. Speeds dipped again in the evening, before rising at night. The highest speeds were recorded around 11 pm, reaching 60 km/h in rural districts and 51 km/h in urban areas.

Researchers also identified road type as a major determinant of speeding. On national highways within the BMR, over 36% of all vehicles were found exceeding speed limits. The problem was more pronounced in urban stretches of highways, where nearly 46% of vehicles were speeding. In rural areas, the issue was even more severe on inner roads, where almost 65% of vehicles exceeded prescribed limits.

As per the study protocol, only roads amenable to speeding were selected. These included stretches with free traffic flow, no visible police enforcement, straight road segments of at least 200 metres, and no nearby schools, junctions, speed bumps, crosswalks, or rumble strips, conditions that closely reflect high-risk corridors for crashes.

Explaining the findings, Professor Gautham M Sukumar, Professor of Epidemiology and Head of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion at NIMHANS and one of the study authors, said the Bengaluru Metropolitan Region including Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, and Ramanagara shows stark contrasts in traffic behaviour.

"Bengaluru urban has more vehicles and congestion, but in Bengaluru Rural, there are fewer vehicles and less congestion, and roads are better. When there is less traffic, people tend to speed more. Average speed in rural areas is more than urban," he said.

He noted that the study focused specifically on road segments where crashes are more likely to occur due to higher speeds. "We are talking about vehicle speed on roads where people can crash and die, free-flowing roads without enforcement, speed bumps, or schools nearby," he added.

Professor Sukumar also pointed out that SUVs and cars with larger engines tend to travel faster in such conditions, while two-wheeler riders were comparatively fewer in high-speed violations.

> **"B'luru Rural has fewer vehicles and less congestion, due to which people tend to speed more**
>
> –Study co-author

Highlighting the national context, he said highways, which constitute only about 5% of India's road network, account for nearly 40–50% of road fatalities. "Highways predominantly pass through rural areas where emergency care systems are limited. Due to higher speeds, lack of enforcement, and limited trauma care access, accidents and fatalities increase significantly," he said.

He stressed the need for stronger enforcement measures along highways, including stricter deterrence mechanisms.

Hoysala team traces missing child

A three-year-old was reported missing by a representative from a travel office on Sunday around 6 pm. According to the reporter, the child was travelling with his parents and had gone missing near the travel office, which prompted the police complaint.

Hoysala 77 from Upparpet police station reached the travel office in 16 minutes and collected necessary information with respect to the missing child. The officials then conducted a deep and extensive search, which led to the child being traced.

Once the three-year-old was secured, and the identity of the parents was verified, the police handed over the child to his parents. — BMB

Lost elderly woman rescued

An 86 year old elderly woman, identified as Lakshmamma, was noticed wandering by a citizen last Friday on Jogupalya Road. The citizen connected with Namma 112 and stated that the woman seemed confused and could require police assistance.

Shortly, Hoysala 28 from Halasuru Police Station were informed and they reached the spot in three minutes. The officers met the elderly woman and tried gathering information, but due to her memory loss condition, she could only provide limited information.

The police officials then arranged for her admission at Sparsha Destitute Care Home and ensured her proper shelter, care, and safety. — BMB

CRIME FILES

Housekeeping staff booked for filming woman in restroom

A 36-year-old woman has filed a complaint alleging that a housekeeping staff member at a private hospital behaved suspiciously and allegedly attempted to record her while she was inside a restroom on the hospital premises in the Varthur Police Station limits.

According to the complaint, the woman had visited the hospital on May 21. She was using the restroom, when she noticed a male housekeeping staff member, identified as Krishna Ram Panging, acting suspiciously and appearing to use his mobile phone to take photographs or videos. When she confronted him, the accused allegedly fled from the spot.

She claimed that though she alerted the hospital administration, the staff shielded the employee from her for nearly 15 minutes. Based on her complaint, police registered a case under Sections 77, 79 and 62 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) along with Section 66E of the Information Technology Act. During the course of the investigation, police said no photographs or videos were found on the accused's mobile phone. — BMB

Auto driver killed, body thrown into pit

A 25-year-old passenger auto driver was allegedly murdered by two men over a financial dispute, and his body was dumped in an empty pit near Ramasandra Lake under the limits of the Kumbalgodu police station on Sunday.

The deceased has been identified as Rakshit N., a resident of Tavarekere and a passenger auto driver. Based on a complaint filed by his mother, Pushpalatha, police have registered a case against the accused, identified as Mohin Pasha and his relative Hasan, both residents of Kambipura.

According to the complaint, Rakshit had left his house on Sunday to meet Mohin Pasha to collect money that was allegedly owed to him. However, he did not return home, prompting his family to search for him. — BMB

Auto driver stabbed to death after drunken row

A 36-year-old autorickshaw driver was allegedly stabbed to death following a drunken altercation near a bar in north Bengaluru during the early hours of Monday. The accused has been arrested by the police.

The deceased was identified as Syed Shafi (36), a resident of Rajak Sab Palya in Bagalur. The incident took place around 1.30 am near Meena Bar on the main road at Abbigere under the jurisdiction of the Chikkabanavara Police Station.

According to police, the accused, identified as Darshan alias Das, had come to the bar along with his friends for drinks. After the bar closed, the group stepped outside while Shafi was seated inside his autorickshaw along with another person. Police said Darshan, who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol, picked up a quarrel with Shafi suspecting that the auto driver was staring at him. The verbal argument soon escalated into a physical fight.

During the altercation, Darshan allegedly took out a dagger he was carrying and stabbed Shafi on the right side of his chest. — BMB

Biker killed by speeding car

A 23-year-old man was killed while his younger brother sustained injuries after a speeding car rammed into their motorcycle in the early hours of Sunday within the limits of the Yelahanka Traffic Police station.

The deceased has been identified as Cristo Pinto, who hailed from Mangaluru. According to police, Cristo was riding the bike, taking his younger brother towards Kogilu Cross on Bellary Road at around 2 am.

Police said a car, allegedly being driven at high speed and in a rash manner, hit the motorcycle from behind, throwing both brothers onto the road. Cristo suffered severe injuries and died on the spot, while his younger brother sustained injuries and was shifted to a nearby hospital for treatment. — BMB

Accidental fall turns out to be murder

A 50-year-old construction worker was allegedly murdered following a drunken argument near an under-construction building in Kundalahalli on Sunday night.

Police have arrested the accused, Sundaramurthy (26), who is said to have assaulted the victim, S Mehboob Basha, during a drinking session.

As per his daughter's complaint, Mehboob had become addicted to alcohol. Around 10.43 pm on Sunday, a neighbour informed the family that he had fallen near the house. Upon reaching the spot, the family found him dead.

Officials said Mehboob's body had injury marks. The case was suspected to be an accident but investigation later revealed it to be a murder. — BMB

City plans massive tree safety drive

Bengaluru plans scientific mapping of dangerous roadside greenery after repeated storm damage exposed hidden decay, and unsafe urban maintenance practices

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Following the surge in tree-fall incidents in the city during recent rainstorms, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) is considering creating geo-tagged tree risk registers for avenue trees within every city corporation limit.

In this regard, a proposal worth Rs 440 lakh has been submitted by the Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST) to the GBA. If approved, IWST will conduct a science-based visual tree assessment of 300 avenue trees in each corporation to identify medium- or high-risk trees. IWST will also use non-invasive diagnostic techniques and advanced tools such as resistographs, sonic tomography, electrical resistance tomography and tree-motion sensors.

If approved, the study will result in ward-wise, geo-tagged Tree Risk Registers, species-specific failure-risk analyses and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for tree management.

"The proposals will soon be sent to the respective commissioners of the city corporations for approval. We are considering the proposal after noticing healthy avenue trees crashing down during recent rainstorms. If approved, the proposal will be implemented as a pilot project across all five city corporations before being extended to the rest of the city," said Sudarshan GK, Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), Greater Bengaluru Authority.

Diseased or weak trees identified by IWST will be placed before Bengaluru's Tree Expert Committee for approval, as the exercise may lead to the identification of a large number of such trees.

In November last year, the GBA deployed a team of 10 forestry students, called tree enumerators, to identify avenue trees in the city that posed a risk of falling during storms and the monsoon season. The team, brought in from Sirsi and Ponampet, identified hundreds of dead trees and hazardous branches, which were later removed by the GBA.

"The earlier survey conducted by forestry students was based on morphological characteristics. The proposed IWST survey will also examine the condition of the root system and identify diseases weakening trees from within," Sudarshan added.

The IWST proposal also includes a critical capacity-building component to train 10 to 15 in-house staff members from each corporation in basic visual tree assessment. This will enable the corporations to make legally auditable decisions on tree retention, pruning or removal while preserving healthy trees.

IWST has submitted five zonal project proposals with a total budget requirement of approximately Rs 440 lakh. The key deliverables include ward-wise Tree Risk Registers, species-specific failure-risk profiles and Standard Operating Procedures for tree maintenance.

The proposed budget for preparing the tree risk register in Bengaluru Central City Corporation is Rs 69.413 lakh; Bengaluru East City Corporation, Rs 96.404 lakh; Bengaluru North City Corporation, Rs 104.488 lakh; Bengaluru South City Corporation, Rs 90.654 lakh; and Bengaluru West City Corporation, Rs 79.154 lakh.

According to IWST, advanced internal heart rot, fungal decay, unscientific pruning and concretised tree bases are among the major causes of tree failure.

"Concrete around tree bases is widespread, with over 90% of roadside trees lacking a Tree Protection Zone. Unscientific pruning and root severance during drain and pavement construction have created permanent entry points for decay fungi and destabilised root anchorage. Complaint data from the 2024 monsoon and pre-monsoon 2025 periods show that 431 trees were uprooted and more than 1,700 branches fell across multiple zones, with Gulmohar, Peltophorum and Spathodea accounting for over 90% of these failures," the proposal noted.

Fallen trees after storms prompt B'luru's scientific safety audit initiative

Rs 440-lakh pilot project will inspect avenue vegetation using advanced diagnostics, aiming to prevent collapses and improve civic safety across five zones

Koramangala battles post-storm mess

Days after destructive rain, debris-filled streets and delayed clean-up efforts fuel anger among frustrated Santoshpuram residents

Three days after heavy rain and strong winds swept across Bengaluru on May 22, fallen trees, broken branches and debris continued to remain uncleared in several parts of Koramangala, with residents alleging an unequal civic response across localities.

While tree debris in areas such as Koramangala 3rd Block was reportedly cleared on the same day as the storm, residents in Santoshpuram, Koramangala, said they were still forced to navigate blocked streets, piled-up branches and rotting leaves on May 25. Locals alleged that the delay exposed a larger pattern in the city's civic response system, where certain neighbourhoods receive quicker attention while others are left waiting for days.

Among those affected was an auto driver whose vehicle was damaged after a falling branch shattered the glass and damaged the upper portion of his auto during the May 22 rain. "I had to spend nearly Rs 20,000 on repairs. Until my auto is fixed, I have to rent another vehicle to continue working. People like us suffer the most because there is no support," he said.

Residents claimed that repeated complaints to civic authorities produced little action. According to locals, sanitation workers refused to remove large branches and logs, saying it did not fall under their responsibility. Residents further alleged that officials repeatedly postponed action, assuring them workers would arrive "the next day", but failing to show up.

Large tree branches and debris were still lying across several stretches in Santoshpuram and nearby interior roads in Koramangala on May 25, causing inconvenience to motorists and pedestrians alike. Residents said the issue was not merely about fallen trees, but also about the speed and seriousness of the government's response after extreme weather events.

"The debris will eventually be removed. But by the time authorities react, the problem becomes much bigger for ordinary people," said a resident. **— Muhammed Ameen**

Broken branches and rotting leaves continue causing inconvenience across interior roads in Koramangala

Fallen branches, damaged vehicles and uncleared waste continue troubling Santoshpuram residents, who claim uneven disaster response and repeated inaction from officials after storms

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

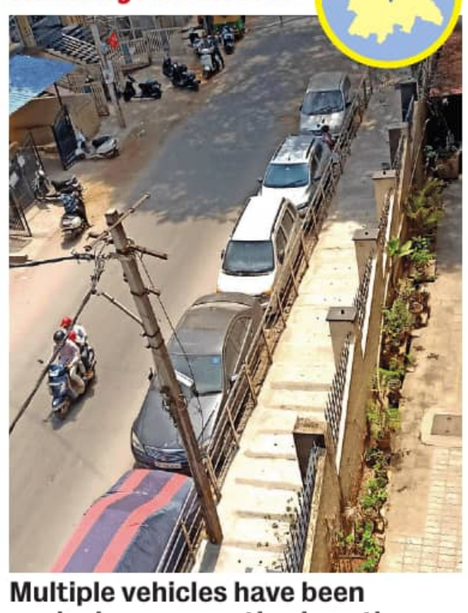
Work pending
Commercial Street

Traders are awaiting cement road work on Jewellers Street and Commercial Street 4th Cross, stating that business has been affected.

Sewage leak
Horamavu

Overflowing sewage near 2nd Cross on Horamavu Main Road, close to Maruti Medical, is raising health concerns among residents.

Parking chaos
Kavalbyrasandra



Multiple vehicles have been parked permanently along the busy roadside on AMC Road in MM Layout, Kavalbyrasandra, for over a month. The drainage cleaning team dumped excavated soil between these vehicles and later covered the drain without removing the soil.

Bowring wall collapse: Suspension order set aside

The Karnataka High Court has quashed the suspension of an executive engineer removed from service after the collapse of a compound wall at Bengaluru's Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital, which claimed seven lives earlier this year.

A Division Bench comprising Justices Suraj Govindaraj and K Manmadha Rao held that the wall collapse alone could not automatically amount to prima facie proof of gross dereliction of duty by the officer concerned.

The court was hearing a petition filed by MB Nagaraj, an executive engineer in the Health and Family Welfare Department, challenging his suspension order and a Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal ruling that denied him interim relief.

The incident occurred on April 29 during heavy rainfall in Bengaluru, when a section of the hospital's compound wall collapsed, killing seven persons and injuring several others.The state government argued that since Nagaraj oversaw the concerned area, the collapse itself justified suspension. Rejecting this, the Bench observed that the rules required prima facie evidence specifically against the officer and not merely proof of the incident.

The court set aside both the suspension order and the KSAT ruling, while clarifying that the government may initiate fresh proceedings if the inquiry reports later establish dereliction of duty. **BMB**

HIGH COURT

Procedural lapse: Bail to man accused of stalking

The Karnataka High Court restored anticipatory bail to a man accused of stalking a minor girl under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, holding that personal liberty cannot be curtailed solely on oral allegations made in court without following due legal procedure.

Justice Vijaykumar A Patil set aside an order of a special court that had remanded the accused to judicial custody after the victim's mother orally alleged that he continued stalking her daughter despite earlier being granted anticipatory bail.

The High Court observed that the special court had acted contrary to settled legal principles. The court stressed that anticipatory bail granted to an accused cannot be nullified merely based on verbal submissions made during proceedings. The case relates to allegations under Section 12 of the POCSO Act and provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita dealing with stalking. The accused had obtained anticipatory bail from the special court in February after apprehending arrest in the matter.

Allowing the petition, the HC ruled that any request to revoke bail must follow legal procedure, including filing an appropriate application and giving the accused an opportunity to respond. The court held that due process must be followed before curtailing liberty and directed that the accused be released. **BMB**

Station reopens, without even the bare necessities

Missing toilets, drinking water and platform shelters raise questions over hurried reopening of Bengaluru East Railway Station

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Incomplete platform shelters and toilets at Bengaluru East Railway Station

Residents of Frazer Town, Cooke Town, Richards Town and nearby localities welcomed the reopening of Bengaluru East Railway Station, which had remained shut since March 2025 for redevelopment with no deadline announced for its return.

However, many railway passengers and residents feel Southwestern Railway reopened the station in haste, as several developmental works remain incomplete, and basic amenities such as drinking water, toilets and platform shelters are yet to be provided.

"Commencement of halting of the inbound trains at the East Railway Station will give much relief to regular commuters who reside in the Eastern suburbs of the city. It also helps those who board the trains here moving towards the City Railway Station to catch onward bound trains towards towns up to Mysore.

The presence of commuters at the station hopefully will put pressure onto the contractor to complete all pending works and facilities required by the passengers at the earliest," said Zaffar Sait, a long-time resident of Richards Town.

A visit to Bengaluru East Railway Station shows several works still underway.

> **"I have come across some railway passengers urinating at the spot as soon as they come out of the railway station. I think the railway station has no toilets. The black spots are not only an eyesore but also a health hazard** —Resident of area

A stretch adjacent to railway platform; Taps are yet to get water connection

"I am waiting to board a Mysuru-bound train. I am from Cox Town. Halting trains here is beneficial for people residing in nearby areas. However, I am not happy with the pending work. It will be a great help for passengers if the Southwestern Railway authorities ensure all the pending works are completed as early as possible," said railway passenger Narayan Rao.

A resident, pleading anonymity, complained that a spot on Pottery Road along the railway compound wall has become a black spot due to nuisance caused by passengers.

"I have come across some railway passengers urinating at the spot as soon as they come out of the railway station. I think the railway station has no toilets. The black spots are not only an eyesore but also a health hazard," said the resident.

Incomplete platform shelters are another concern for passengers waiting for Mysore-bound trains or alighting from trains arriving from Chennai, Tirupati, Marikuppam and Jolarpet.

"As of now, there are no problems. It will be a problem for passengers waiting if the railway authorities fail to complete the construction of platform shelters within a few weeks. It will be tough for passengers to wait for trains or to alight from trains whenever it rains," said Joseph P, a railway passenger.

Meanwhile, a railway employee said the reservation counter is open and parking facilities will be ready soon. "On average, 25 trains halt at this station. We allow passengers to use the toilets meant for staff members," said the employee.

The Southwestern Railway Public Relations Officer said all pending works will be completed within a month.

Glitch leaves Anna Bhagya beneficiaries in lurch

Thousands of ration card holders across Karnataka are struggling to collect food grains under the Anna Bhagya scheme due to persistent server and biometric authentication issues at fair price shops.

Beneficiaries have been forced to stand in long queues for hours over the past week, only to return without receiving rice or ragi as fingerprint verification repeatedly fails.

Officials said statewide server and network issues are affecting biometric authentication systems. This month, beneficiaries are receiving both May and advance June allocations of rice and ragi from the Centre, requiring two separate biometric authentications instead of one. **BMB**

B'luru-Tumakuru Metro line will have 16 stops

The proposed Bengaluru-Tumakuru Metro corridor has been trimmed in the revised Detailed Project Report (DPR), with stations reduced from 25 in the earlier feasibility report to 16.

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has submitted the DPR to the state government, citing faster travel time and better operational efficiency. Officials said fewer stations could help commuters travel between Bengaluru and Tumakuru in nearly an hour.

The corridor will extend the Green Line from Madavara (BIEC), passing through Nelamangala, Dabaspet and Kyathsandra before terminating at Tumakuru. **BMB**

Weeklong crackdown nets 592 drunk drivers

The Traffic Police registered 740 cases of drunk driving and-speeding during an enforcement drive conducted across the city between May 18 and May 24.

The operation involved personnel from all 53 traffic police stations as part of a crackdown on drunken driving and speeding violations. According to data released by traffic police, 37,829 vehicles were checked during the drive. Police booked 592 motorists for driving under the influence of alcohol during inspections conducted at multiple locations.

In a parallel drive against overspeeding, traffic police registered 148 cases and collected fines amounting to 1.49 lakh from violators. **BMB**

Karnataka waste report faces NGT scrutiny over compliance gaps

Amicus curiae higlights Karnataka's affidavit flaws, urging stricter waste management, segregation, monitoring, and stronger statutory compliance statewide

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Karnataka's report to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on solid and liquid waste management has come under scrutiny.

This comes after the amicus curiae highlighted deficiencies, compliance gaps, and environmental concerns in the affidavit submitted by the Karnataka chief secretary on May 12.

In an observation report, the amicus curiae suggested measures to address gaps in waste management and ensure time-bound compliance, environmental safeguards, and better implementation of statutory mandates and judicial directions.

The affidavit submitted earlier stated that Karnataka generates 13,273 tonnes of waste per day, with a gap of 1,920 tonnes per day between waste generation and processing capacity.

In the observation report, the amicus curiae suggested that Karnataka and all Urban Local Bodies in the state ensure 100% source segregation within a fixed and time-bound schedule, preferably within 90 days. Karnataka should also consider establishing decentralised material recovery facilities and ward-level dry waste collection centres in all ULBs generating more than 100 tonnes of waste per day.

The report further stressed the need to establish regional construction and demolition (C&D) waste recycling facilities in districts generating large volumes of C&D waste.

"Utilisation of recycled products of C&D waste should be used in public infrastructure projects. Manufacturers producing more than 10 tonnes per month of sanitary products for the Karnataka market shall fund at least 5 decentralised sanitary waste incinerators in the state per year as part of their EPR/ CSR obligation," the amicus curiae suggested.

Observation report highlights gaps in waste processing, calling for decentralised recyling, pollution checks, and transport monitoring of legacy waste sites

Mounting waste, untreated sewage and poor monitoring have triggered fresh concerns, with experts urging strict timelines, decentralised processing and stronger environmental accountability across Karnataka's urban and rural regions

For better management of legacy waste in Karnataka, the observation report called for regular monitoring of air and water pollution in areas storing large volumes of legacy waste. It also stated that all biomining and remediation contracts must incorporate scientifically verifiable recovery benchmarks and third-party environmental verification mechanisms.

The report further recommended monthly groundwater, surface water, and ambient air quality monitoring at all legacy waste sites, with reports placed in the public domain. It also called for preparation of scientifically validated post-remediation land restoration and utilisation plans.

The report mandated that there should be no discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage into rivers, lakes, drains, canals, and other water bodies. It also suggested that the state install online continuous effluent monitoring systems for all sewage treatment plants connected to the Central Pollution Control Board and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board servers.

"Karnataka State Pollution Control Board should conduct inspections of all non-compliant sewage treatment plants and file facility-wise compliance status reports. District-wise timelines for sewer connectivity and completion of sewage infrastructure projects should be prepared by the state," the observation report by the amicus curiae stated.

Hate speech bill faces Centre's objections

The Centre has raised objections to Karnataka's proposed anti-hate speech legislation, casting uncertainty over the state government's ambitious attempt to bring in a separate law to curb hate speech and hate crimes. Both Houses passed the Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025, and later sent it for the Governor's assent. However, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot withheld approval and reserved the Bill for the President's consideration. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has now written to the state government questioning whether such a law is necessary.

In its communication, the ministry said the provisions proposed in the Bill are already covered under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and existing laws. It warned that introducing a separate state law could lead to duplication and affect legal uniformity.

The bill proposed one-to-seven-year jail terms, fines up to Rs 1 lakh non-bailable offences, and trials before First class juidicial magistrates. **–BMB**

Bhatkal drowning toll rises to 11

One more body was recovered on Monday, taking the death toll to 11, a day after a group attempting to collect freshwater mussels was swept away by strong currents in the Tatte Hakkalu river in Uttara Kannada district, police said.

The tragedy occurred on Sunday in Shirali village of Bhatkal taluk, where mussel collection remains a traditional seasonal livelihood for many coastal families. According to police, 14 people from Shirali village had entered the river to collect mussels when they allegedly moved deeper into the water without accurately assessing the river level.

"When the water flow suddenly increased, the route became submerged, and the group, including women, was caught in strong river currents and swept away," police said.

"All bodies have been recovered. A total of 11 bodies has been recovered and post-mortems have been conducted," Superintendent of Police Deepan M N said. **–BMB**

BM Trippin' Tales

Consumer Connect Initiative

Hampi opens camera-free photography access for tourists visiting heritage monuments

ASI withdraws ₹50 camera charge, encouraging tourists to capture and share Hampi's heritage while strict rules remain for filming

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Until now, tourists visiting Hampi had to pay to use cameras, while taking photos on mobile phones was free. Many had questioned why the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) adopted a dual policy of allowing mobile phones while imposing a fee on using cameras. However, going forward, tourists visiting the world-famous heritage sites of Hampi can capture its magnificent monuments on their cameras without paying any fee. In a major relief for photography enthusiasts and tourists, the ₹50 fee previously charged for carrying cameras into the monument complex has now been abolished.

The decision follows Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat's visit to Hampi in January this year. During his visit, the minister reportedly stated that photography plays an important role in promoting tourism and showcasing heritage destinations to the world. He observed that imposing a separate camera fee at historical monuments could discourage visitors and hinder tourism growth. Following his directions to officials to withdraw the fee immediately, the ASI has now officially removed the charge, bringing cheer to photographers, tourists and travel content creators.

Officials said the relaxation is expected to encourage more visitors to document and share the beauty of Hampi's monuments, temples and stone architecture across digital and social media platforms, thereby increasing the destination's global visibility. Local photographers and tourism stakeholders have welcomed the move, saying photography is essential for promoting heritage tourism and cultural awareness.

Rare Yali sculpture unearthed during stone paving work at Hazara Rama temple in Hampi

However, while general photography has become free and accessible, strict rules will continue for professional and commercial filming activities. Visitors using tripods and drones will still need mandatory permission from ASI authorities before shooting. The department clarified that special permissions will remain compulsory for commercial projects, documentaries and film shoots conducted within protected monument zones.

For movie shootings and large-scale professional productions, authorities have fixed a security deposit of ₹1 lakh per day. Similarly, drone operations will require a deposit of ₹50,000. Authorities also reiterated that drones cannot fly freely over sensitive and ancient structures at Hampi because of safety and conservation concerns. Several areas within the heritage zone have already been declared no-drone zones to protect the monuments from possible damage or disturbance.

Rare stone 'Yali' sculpture unearthed

A rare two-foot-tall stone carving of the mythical creature 'Yali' or 'Vyala' has been unearthed at the Hazara Rama Temple complex in Hampi during excavation work for stone paving. The sculpture depicts a mythical guardian figure commonly seen in South Indian temple architecture and is believed to symbolise strength and divine protection while warding off negative forces. Archaeologists also discovered four broken Alwar idols and a 23-metre-long stone drain at the site. ASI officials said the discovery confirms that Vyala sculptures were also installed near temple entrances during the Vijayanagara era, apart from decorative temple wall art.

Both teams have done really well throughout the season. On the given day, whichever team executes their plans better, plays better cricket and stays calmer under pressure, I think that team will win the match"
—Rajat Patidar, RCB captain

BangaloreMirror | 7
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Karnataka hockey legacy shines globally

Raheel, Mohith and Poovanna embody discipline, resilience and heritage, redefining Karnataka's hockey ecosystem with international success and national pride

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Raheel

C B Poovanna

Mohith

Men's hockey has always been an area dominated by Karnataka, with legendary players like B P Govinda, M P Ganesh, Subbaiah Poovanna and Prashanth Poojary part of the Indian team bringing laurels to the nation in their time. Today, a new generation is building on that foundation with better global exposure, opportunities and infrastructure, redefining what one would normally know about the sports ecosystem in the state.

Players Mohammed Raheel Mouseen, C B Poovanna and Mohith from the Indian team are emerging faces of Indian hockey, bonded by legacy, discipline and breakthrough performances. Speaking with BM, the three players opened a window into the life of an international athlete and explained how hard work and the right support system help talent flourish.

Born with hockey in his blood, Mohammed Raheel Mouseen, 29, grew up surrounded by conversations about matches, discipline and selections, almost as if the sport was never taught but absorbed naturally. His father, Md Naseeruddin, dedicated over 25 years to playing for Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, while his grandfather Ameer Uddin played for East India. His late uncle Jaani Mohideen represented Tata in the 1980s and his elder brother Md Naeem Uddin has competed in 14 Senior Nationals. The strong family legacy inspired him to pick up the hockey stick early with a clear dream and grounded approach.

On the field, Raheel has built his own identity with gold medals at the Asian Champions Trophy 2024 and Asia Cup 5s 2023, along with a silver medal at the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2025. He also finished fifth at the FIH Hockey 5s World Cup 2024 and emerged as the top scorer and best player at the FIH Hockey 5s Tournament 2022. Through the sports quota, he now works with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and has received support through state schemes, including the Karnataka Olympic Award and Ekalavya Award.

"Unlike cricket, sponsorships in hockey are hard to get, and they are mostly non-monetary. At international levels, the costs are significant, as equipment could cost between Rs 15,000 and Rs 30,000. On average, I require four pairs of shoes and three sticks every year," said Raheel, highlighting the financial strain despite competing at the highest level.

Alongside the achievements, he said selections have been the toughest challenge in his career. "I grew up watching my family play hockey, so it was never a choice, it was always a part of who I am. But putting in everything and still not getting selected at times is the hardest part," he said.

Unlike Raheel, Mohith entered hockey through chance after his grandfather spotted an advertisement. Initially interested in cricket while growing up in Hassan, he attended selections at a sports hostel with his mother and grandfather before earning a place that changed his life. He went on to win gold at the Asia Cup 2023, where he was adjudged Best Goalkeeper, finished fourth at the Junior World Cup 2023 in Malaysia, and secured gold at the Sultan of Johor Cup 2022 followed by bronze in 2023.

"I felt like nothing was going to happen in hockey, and I told my father I wanted to quit, focus on studies and become a CA. My father refused to let me give up and pushed me to continue," said Mohith.

Coming from Kodagu, C B Poovanna balanced elite hockey and an SBI career through sports quota, inspired by newspaper clippings of legendary players and their struggles.

HIGHLIGHTS

Indian open surfing raises Asian games stakes

Indian surfing will once again turn its attention to the waves of Karnataka as the seventh edition of the Indian Open of Surfing 2026, a key stop in the national surfing series, is set to take place from May 29 to May 31 at the Blue Bay Tannirbhavi Eco Beach in Mangaluru.

With surfing preparing for its historic debut at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games later this year, this year's Indian Open comes at a crucial stage in India's Asian Games selection cycle, with several of the country's leading surfers looking to strengthen their position in the national rankings ahead of the continental showpiece.

India has secured two quota spots each in the Men's Open Shortboard and Women's Open Shortboard events for the Asian Games, raising the stakes for this year's domestic season. As one of the final major events before the continental event, the championship is expected to influence Team India selection discussions.

Around 80 athletes from six states to compete in surfing championship events. **-ANI**

Blue Tigers land in London shorthanded

The Indian senior men's national team, with 17 players, arrived in London on Sunday ahead of their participation in the Unity Cup 2026.

The Blue Tigers departed from Bengaluru in the early hours of Sunday to travel to the English capital for what will be their first match on British soil since 2002. Khalid Jamil's side assembled in Bengaluru on May 22, a day after the conclusion of the Indian Super League 2025-26.

However, Mohun Bagan Super Giant recalled their players from the national camp on May 23, forcing India to travel with the remaining 17 players. Goalkeeper Hrithik Tiwari is travelling separately and is expected to arrive on Monday.

India, ranked 136th in the FIFA rankings, will face Jamaica (71st) in the second semi-final on May 27 midnight (May 28 IST), while Nigeria (26th) will take on Zimbabwe (130th) a day earlier. The tournament will be held at The Valley, home of Charlton Athletic FC, with all matches streamed live on FanCode. **-ANI**

RCB's batting depth vs GT's relentless bowling machine

Royal Challengers Bengaluru's pursuit of back-to-back Indian Premier League (IPL) titles will run into the season's most disciplined bowling attack when they face Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 1 here on Tuesday, with a direct place in the final at stake.

Both teams ended the league stage on 18 points after 14 matches, but RCB claimed the top spot owing to a superior net run rate.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Gujarat Titans have arguably been the two most complete sides of IPL 2026, though they have taken contrasting routes to the playoffs. RCB, under skipper Rajat Patidar, built their campaign around aggressive batting and a far more reliable bowling unit than in previous seasons.

The defending champions repeatedly crossed 200 this season and benefited immensely from the experience of the iconic Virat Kohli at the top and the pace duo of Josh Hazlewood and Bhuvneshwar Kumar with the ball.

RCB also carry the advantage of recent familiarity with conditions in Dharamsala, where they sealed a crucial win against Punjab Kings earlier this month.

GT, meanwhile, have surged into the playoffs on the back of a formidable bowling attack and a top order that rarely allowed pressure to build. Captain Shubman Gill, the elegant Sai Sudharsan and explosive wicketkeeper-batter Jos Buttler have provided solidity and firepower in equal measure.

Virat Kohli plays a shot during a practice session ahead of the first qualifier match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Gujarat Titans, in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, on Tuesday

But it is GT's bowling that has stood out in the second half of the season. The pace trio of Mohammed Siraj, Kagiso Rabada and Prasidh Krishna has consistently struck with the new ball, while Rashid Khan and left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore have controlled the middle overs expertly.

Today's battle
Royal Challengers Bengaluru
vs
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Match-ups in Qualifier 1

The contest could hinge on a handful of key match-ups.

Kohli against Protea pace ace Rabada promises to be one of the defining battles of the evening. Kohli's ability to negotiate the early burst from GT's quicks could shape RCB's powerplay.

Similarly, Phil Salt's attacking intent against Siraj, who knows the RCB setup intimately after previous seasons with the franchise, could dictate the early tempo.

At the other end, Hazlewood and Bhuvneshwar will test Gill and Sudharsan with movement under lights. **—PTI**

Lost in the city

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said Dr. Chandana R Gowda, Consultant Neurologist at Fortis Hospital.

However, memory loss is not the first visible symptom. Behavioural and personality changes appear much earlier in most cases, especially for people above 60 years of age. Signs such as sudden withdrawal, suspicion, anxiety, irritability, confusion, poor hygiene, sleep disturbances, loss of interest in routines, and difficulty in managing finances are some common issues.

The city's fast paced lifestyle is why experts see a growing cognitive decline among both younger middle-aged adults and elderly citizens. Major contributors of this declining brain health are sedentary habits, hypertension, poor sleep, smoking, stress, alcohol use, and social isolation.

As per Dr. Gowda, patients in their 40s and 50s too are presenting attention-related problems along with memory issues, which are linked to uncontrolled lifestyle diseases and chronic stress. She highlights that while genetics can increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease, it is lifestyle which would play a more significant role in prevention.

"Genes alone do not completely decide who develops Alzheimer's disease. Regular exercise, blood pressure and blood sugar control, healthy sleep, mental stimulation, social engagement and a nourishing diet can significantly support brain health, even among people with family history," she said.

Experts state that the growing rise of elderly people living alone due to their children's overseas employment, transition to nuclear families, and migration is on a rise. This has resulted in many depending on hired caregivers or elderly spouses, who themselves require support. Dr. Vikram Arunachalam, Senior Psychiatrist with the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), GBA, Bengaluru and Consultant Psychiatrist at Suguna Hospital, shares that families tend to seek help after a crisis occurs.

"We are seeing increasing elderly mental health concerns and dementia related presentations in Bengaluru. Delayed diagnosis remains one of the biggest concerns. Families usually approach hospitals only after wandering, falls, aggression, financial mismanagement or inability to recognise relatives begin affecting safety," he pointed out.

Caregiver burnout

Caregiver burnout has become one of the most overlooked public health issues linked to dementia care. Low-income caregivers often lose daily wages or have to discontinue work entirely to supervise elderly family members with disturbed sleep, repeated questioning, behavioural disturbances and wandering tendencies.

City psychiatrists note that dementia patients frequently present anxiety, loneliness, confusion, depression and direct memory complaints, which delays psychiatric intervention going forward. Diabetes, hypertension, stroke, heart disease, arthritis, hearing loss, poor vision and sleep disorders make the treatment more complex.

Indulging in arguments with dementia patients repeatedly, isolating them socially or ignoring structured routines can further worsen their conditions and bring emotional distress significantly. Doctors emphasise that families should remain consistent, should deal with matters with compassion, supervise daily schedules and engage elderly parents socially.

Experts urge that stronger community level eldercare systems should be procured to manage the city's ageing population. From the DMHP perspective, important priorities include early screening for memory disorders at primary health centres and Namma Clinics' training medical officers, nurses, ASHA and community health workers to identify early dementia symptoms. Regular caregiver support and psychoeducation programs should be made available and home based outreach for vulnerable elderly should be established. There needs to be better coordination between psychiatry, neurology, geriatric medicine and social welfare systems along with public awareness campaigns in local languages.

Dr. Gowda shares that for dementia, more private hospitals offer neurologists, memory clinics, rehabilitation and home care support. Newer treatments such as Donanemab are bringing hope for slowing mild Alzheimer's progression through early intervention, she said.

However, she points out that long term and advanced dementia care still remains emotional, physical and financially challenging for many middle class families, and the need for affordable care centres and trained caregivers with stronger awareness programs need to be put in place.

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I, MURATUJA HUSENSAB NADADAL (Old Name), residing at No.11, 2nd Floor, Masjid Road, Near Ring Road, Kaderenahalli, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 070, have changed my name to MURATUJA NADADAL (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 25/5/2026 Before Notary V.Rajashekhara Bangalore.

I, MAHAVEER S/O ANNARAJ JAIN residing at NO.2, JAGARWAL NIVAS 2nd floor,T.S LANE SUBRAMANYA LANE AKKIPET CROSS COTTONPET BANGALORE 560053, have changed my name to MAHAVEER JAIN vide affidavit IN-KA66406344744675Y dated 21/5/2026 at Bangalore

I, Mohit Thapliyal, Resident 3062, Sobha Althea, Harohalli, Yelahanka, Po: Singanayakanahalli, Karnataka. Bengaluru-560064. Changed My Minor Son Name from Laksh Mohit Thapliyal to Laksh Thapliyal to all further purposes.

I, Amandeep, W/o Rohit Verma, R/o A-305, Anisha Grange Apt, Kaggadasapura, bengaluru-560093 changed my name to Amandeep Sharma vide Affidavit No. IN-KA65001002401556Y dated 20/05/2026 sworn before Notary Public A.R. Muneer Ahmed for all future purposes

I, VIBHA GUPTA, D/o AJAY KUMAR GUPTA, R/o S09-1105, Smondoville, Neo Town Road, Electronic City Phase 1, Bangalore - 560100. I have changed my name to VIBHA BANSAL vide affidavit dated: 21/05/2026 FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, Vikrant Sahu, R/o No. 406, 4th floor, Winst Sai Kalyan, 1st Main Road, Coffee Board Layout, Kempapura, Hebbal, Bangalore-560024, have changed my daughter's name (minor) from "DHAIRYA" to "ISHA GUPTA".

I, SHELVI W/o Vishal Bernadshaa.R Agd 46 Yrs R/at 78/3, 4th Crs, Srirampuram Blr- 21 Hv Changed my name as VARNIKHAA SHRI VISHAL vide affidavit Dt: 25/5/26 Sworn To Notary Sakalesh Blr.

I MRIDUL CHANDRA PRASAD R/O B8095, PRESTIGE SUNRISE PARK BIRCHWOOD, ELECTONIC CITY PH1, BANGALORE-560100 have changed my name to MRIDUL CHANDRA

I, PRASHANT MAHENDRA BOHRA S/o Mahendra Kumar Madanlal, residing at No.227/229, Seppings Road, Shivaji Nagar, Bengaluru-560 001 have changed my name to PRASHANT BOHRA vide affidavit dated 23.05.2026 sworn before notary A R Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

I, Martina Mary Martin D/o Leon Anthony D Monte R/o No 80,G 1, Bhanu Pride Apart ment, Kachara kanahalli, St Thomas Town Post, Bengaluru 560084. Have Changed my name to Martina Mary D Monte for All Purposes.

I, Faizan Ahmed S/o Fayaz Ahmed R/o No 12/1 S Street Langford Road Shantinagar Bangalore - 560027 have changed my name to Mohammed Faizan Ahmed for all purposes

I, Jayanth B R/o No 136/197, Behind Bisilu Maramma Temple, Ilvala Hobli, Belawadi Post, Mysuru 570018 have changed my minor daughter's name from Srushti Harithas to Tanvi Harithas for all purposes

I, ASHISH KUMAR S/o Omkar Mal agd 39 Yrs R/at S.V. Enclave, Flt 004, 8th Mn Kothanur Mn Rd, Puttenahalli Blr- 78 hv Changed my name as ASHISH AGARWAL Vide affidavit dt: 25-5-26 Sworn to Notary Sakalesh Blr.

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74-yr-old loses ₹24 crore to digital arrest scam

An elderly woman allegedly lost Rs 24 crore in a large-scale digital arrest scam in the city. The fraudsters posed as senior officials from the Enforcement Directorate and CBI. According to the Karnataka Cyber Command, the accused allegedly intimidated and manipulated 74-year-old Laxmi Ramamurthy, between February 10 and April 24.

Cybercrime officials say that the scammers forced the victim to transfer money from her bank account through 26 transactions, furthering into 23 mule bank accounts which were linked to 10 banks across India. A case was registered in this regard with the Bengaluru City Cyber Crime Police Station under Sections 66C and 66D of the IT Act along with Sections 319(2) and 308(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Police arrested six accused from across the nation. They are identified as N Sivagnanam from Erode in Tamil Nadu, Akkach Mallick from Mumbai, Palak Bhai Patel and Amit Narendra Patel from Ahmedabad, Om Prakash Rajput from Delhi, and Gaurav Kumar from Bihar.

Investigation revealed that Palak and Amit are linked to another digital fraud case of Rs 15 crore, while Sivagnanam is allegedly involved in four separate cyber fraud cases and Mallick is connected to three additional cyber frauds.

The authorities have recovered Rs 1.46 crore and another Rs 1.40 crore is being recovered. Officials are making attempts to trace the remaining amount and to uncover a wider money trail in this regard. **BMB**

Development dreams shattered: Who is answerable?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The authorities must take suitable action against the contractor and the engineer who were in-charge of quality control," said Krishna.

Heritage Basavanagudi Residents Welfare Forum Secretary Guruprasad RK said the quality testing was not done after the completion of the work. "It is nothing but a waste of public money in the name of beautification. It is quite ironic to know that the authorities did not bother to check the quality of the work. For example, the then chief engineer (Vinayak Sugur) was in-charge of the white topping work on Gandhi Bazar when the work was in progress.

Later, he became in-charge of the quality testing when the white topping of Gandhi Bazar was completed. How can you expect the same engineer to find any mistakes or poor quality in the work of which he was in-charge?" asks Guruprasad.

Bangalore Mirror had written on February 21, about how cobblestones laid on footpaths and on the road have already collapsed even though the civic agency spent Rs 28 crore to redevelop the road a year ago.

Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) Assistant Executive Engineer Lingaraje Gowda said that he would look into the matter. "I will verify whether the developmental work on Gandhi Bazar is under the DLP (defects liability period). If it is under the DLP, the contractor is responsible for the maintenance of the road and footpath," the assistant executive engineer said.

MAMMOGRAM RULES LEAVE WOMEN CONFUSED

Experts remain divided over ideal breast cancer screening age and frequency

Deciding when to begin routine mammograms can be confusing. Some health organisations recommend women start screening at 40 or 45, while another recently advised beginning at 50. Experts also disagree on whether screening should be annual or every other year.

The differing advice is partly because breast cancer screening guidelines are designed for women considered to be at average risk and without symptoms. However, breast cancer is so common that defining who is truly "average" remains difficult, as does balancing the benefits and drawbacks of screening.

"Breast cancer is not one disease," said Dr Laura Esserman of the University of California, San Francisco. "So how does it make sense to screen everybody the same when everyone does not have the same risk?"

Esserman is leading research aimed at understanding who falls into low-, moderate- or high-risk categories, with the goal of providing more personalised screening advice.

More than 320,000 women in the US are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, according to the American Cancer Society. Death rates have declined for decades, largely because of improved treatments, but it remains the second most common cause of cancer deaths among women in the country. Diagnoses are also continuing to rise slowly.

When should women get mammograms?

The latest guidance comes from the American College of Physicians, which recommends that average-risk women aged 50 to 74 undergo mammograms every two years. Women aged 40 to 49 are advised to discuss the benefits and risks with their doctor and, if they choose screening, to have it every other year.

The guidance, issued last month, surprised many experts because most major US health organisations recommend starting screening earlier, during a woman's 40s. The US Preventive Services Task Force recently updated its advice to recommend biennial mammograms beginning at age 40 instead of 50.

The American Cancer Society has long advised annual mammograms for women aged 45 to 54, although it says screening may begin at 40 if preferred. Women aged 55 and above can either continue annual screening or switch to screening every two years.

The American College of Physicians also suggests doctors discuss stopping routine screening with women aged 75 and older. In contrast, the American Cancer Society says healthy women may continue screening for as long as they choose.

Why do experts disagree?

The greater a woman's risk of developing breast cancer, the more likely she is to benefit from regular screening. However, beyond well-known risk factors such as the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes, determining individual risk is difficult. Age has traditionally been used as a guide because breast cancer risk increases over time.

Mammograms are not perfect. They can sometimes miss cancer, or an aggressive tumour may appear after a routine screening. Guidelines therefore try to balance the benefits of early detection against possible harms, including stress, unnecessary tests and painful follow-up procedures for suspicious areas that later prove harmless.

"We're not saying there's no benefit" from mammograms in women in their 40s, said Dr Carolyn Crandall of the University of California, Los Angeles, who chaired the American College of Physicians report. However, she noted that the balance between benefits and harms is narrower for women aged 40 to 49. The American Cancer Society recommends annual mammograms from age 45 because breast cancer rates in women aged 45 to 49 are closer to those seen in women aged 50 to 54 than those in the early 40s, according to the society's cancer detection expert, Robert Smith.

Smith said one major challenge is the lack of reliable ways to predict whether a woman is likely to develop an aggressive cancer or a slower-growing form of the disease.

Dense breasts and screening

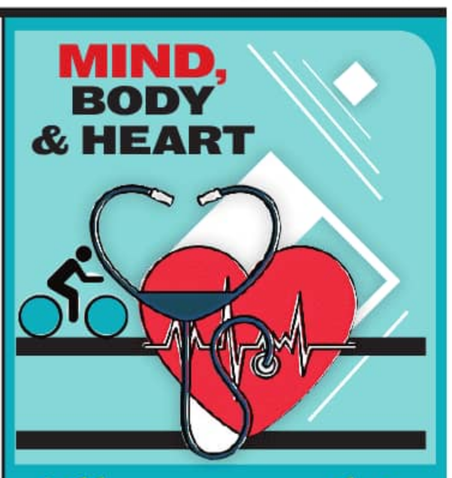
Nearly half of women over 40 have dense breast tissue. This can make tumours harder to detect on mammograms and may slightly increase cancer risk. Women are informed about breast density after a mammogram. However, experts are still uncertain whether women with dense breasts would benefit from additional screening through ultrasound scans or MRI. The new guidance from the American College of Physicians recommends considering 3D mammography, also known as digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT).

The future of breast cancer screening

Researchers believe future screening may involve broader genetic testing alongside lifestyle and health factors to create more personalised screening plans.

A recent study involving nearly 46,000 women, known as the WISDOM trial, used factors such as age, genetics, breast density, lifestyle and medical history to classify women into different risk groups. Depending on their risk, women either delayed screening until age 50, underwent screening every two years, or had annual mammograms. Women at the highest risk also received MRI screening.

Researchers found that risk-based screening was as effective as annual mammograms. Around 30% of women with higher genetic risk had no family history of breast cancer. AI tools may soon help predict future risk through mammograms. Experts advise women to discuss risk factors with doctors and maintain regular screening, as consistency remains key. —AP



All you need to know about...

Night comfort

Simple night-time habits to stay cool, comfortable, and sleep better during humid weather

1 Take a cool or lukewarm shower
Your body may feel sticky and hot at night due to humidity. A cool or lukewarm shower lowers body temperature, removes sweat, and leaves you feeling refreshed and comfortable, making it easier to fall asleep.

2 Switch to lightweight skincare
In humid conditions, heavy creams can feel uncomfortable. Use lightweight, hydrating creams that soothe the skin without feeling greasy, helping you feel refreshed and comfortable before bed.

3 Wear breathable sleepwear
Loose cotton or moisture-wicking fabrics can help prevent overheating and discomfort caused by trapped sweat. Wearing comfortable sleepwear helps your body feel cooler and more relaxed while you sleep.

4 Keep your room cool and airy
Use a fan, light bedding, or proper ventilation to reduce stuffiness. A cooler sleeping environment not only improves comfort but also reduces tossing and turning caused by humid nights.

5 Sip something cool and hydrating
Drinking water or a soothing, caffeine-free beverage before bed can help your body feel balanced and relaxed.

6 Avoid heavy meals before bedtime
Rich or spicy foods can raise body temperature and cause discomfort, especially in humid weather. Eating lighter meals may help your body settle into a more restful sleep.

—Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

Cycling boosts brain health, mood and focus, global review finds benefits

A review of nearly 90 studies across 19 countries, including the US, Canada and several European nations, in which cycling was tested as an intervention, has found that the activity can be an accessible tool for improving brain health and overall well-being through better moods and stronger social connections.

Researchers from Outride, a US-based non-profit organisation, The University of Oklahoma and Loma Linda University said that with rising mental health challenges and low levels of physical activity, identifying low-cost and effective ways to support well-being and movement throughout life is critical.

The findings, published in the journal Frontiers in Sports and Active Living, suggested that cycling, particularly outdoors and on a regular basis, offers the greatest benefits across well-being measures.

"This review demonstrates that going for a bike ride can support everything from improved mood to stronger social networks and better cognition," lead author Lauren Schuck said.

The analysis also linked cycling to improvements in reaction time, attention and brain function associated with focus and cognitive performance.

The researchers said cycling can include school-based riding programmes, community group rides, stationary cycling at gyms and active commuting, all of which may support mental well-being and brain health in daily life.

The team added that cognitive benefits from cycling tended to follow an "inverted-U pattern", moderate intensity may support cognition, while excessive exertion could temporarily impair it. —PTI

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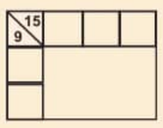
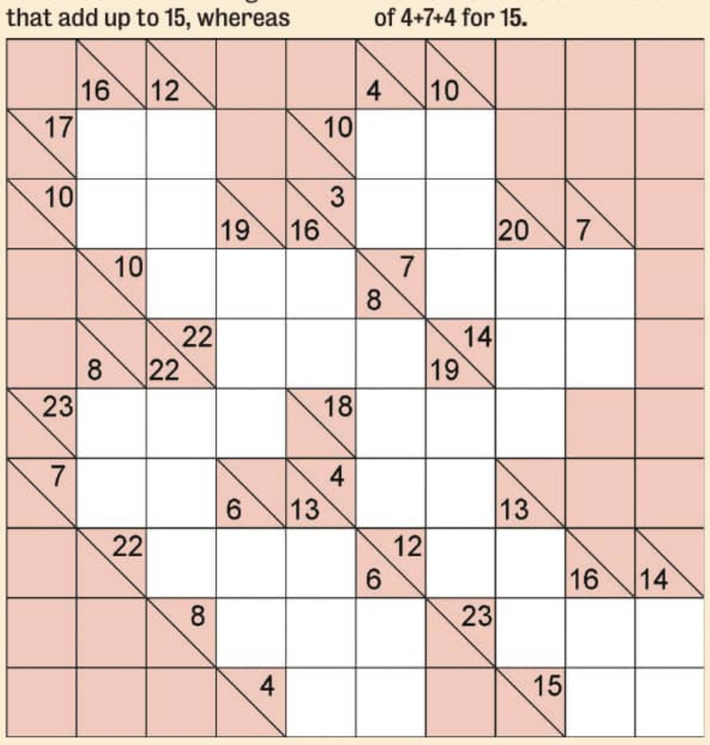
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

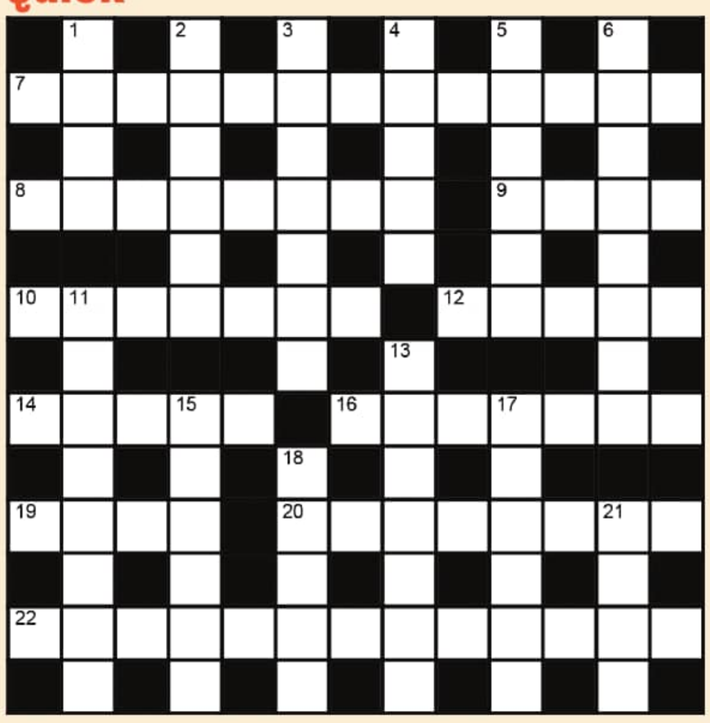
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Disappointing, especially in movies (13)
8 Tchaikovsky ballet (4,4)
9 Footnote abbr. (4)
10 Tranquil, prosperous, carefree (7)
12 Bone prefix (5)
14 Float aimlessly (5)
16 Vie (7)
19 Prefix for one thousand (4)
20 Root vegetables (8)
22 Embarrassing gift (5,8)

DOWN

1 Afresh; all over again (4)
2 Outdoor meal (6)
3 Very eager or expectant (3,4)
4 Hot coal (5)
5 Extra shares issued in place of dividends? (6)
6 Embrocation or thin ointment (8)
11 Hermetic and flawless (8)
13 Grieved for or over (7)
15 Stays on the water (6)
17 Curry containing pork (6)
18 Rapidity (5)
21 Young male horse (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: D EQUALS T

NOYNJD DZN QNLD. YINYWIN MFI DZN KFILD. JWYEDWVEGN FU KZWD JFRNL.

Linemaro

Are you vaporising from a solid state? Because you are sublime

Mindchow

We must walk consciously only part way toward our goal, and then leap in the dark to our success

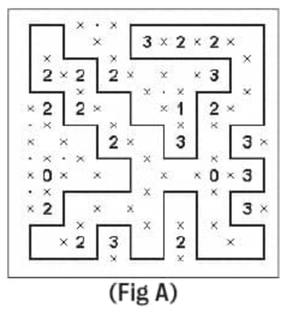
Joke of the day

Patience is a minor form of despair disguised as a virtue

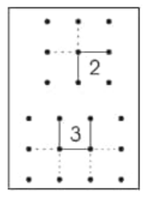
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

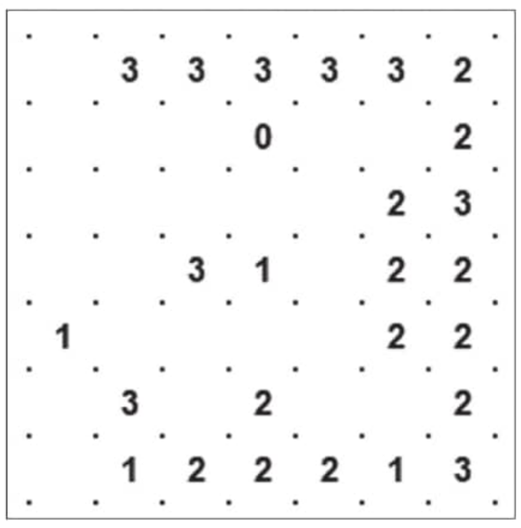


(Fig B) Not Allowed

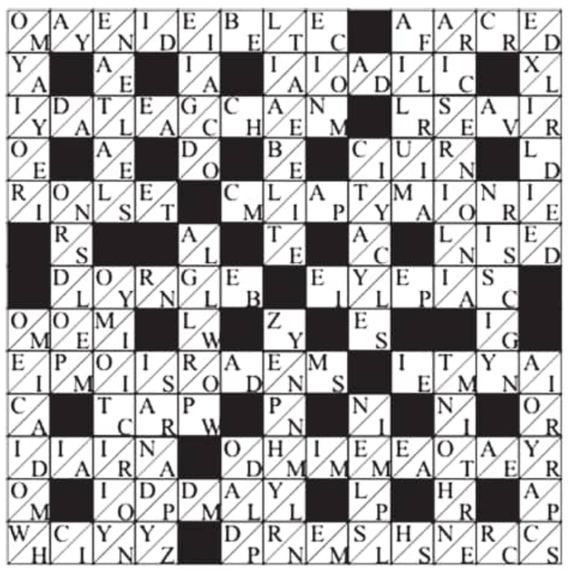
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



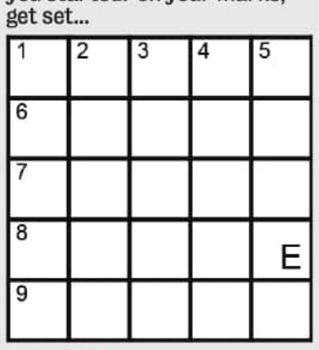
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 In Cap; 6 No all; 7 Gaits; 8 Erase; 9 Hates

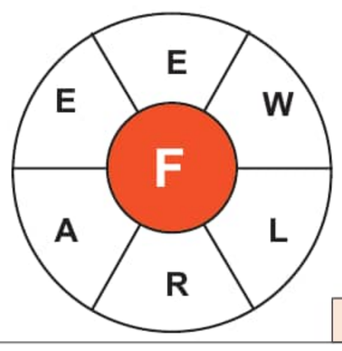
DOWN

1 Ha LPs; 2 Galea; 3 Arian; 4 Nites; 5 So tec

Mensapuzzle

Which number continues the sequence?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

11 Average; 13 Good; 15 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

6			2	9			1	4
3		9	1					
							5	
			9		6		2	5
1				5				8
4	2		7		3			
	8							
					1	2		7
5	4			7	8			9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 4
1 2 3 8

Medium = 23
2 7 9 9

Hard = 36
4 5 6 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

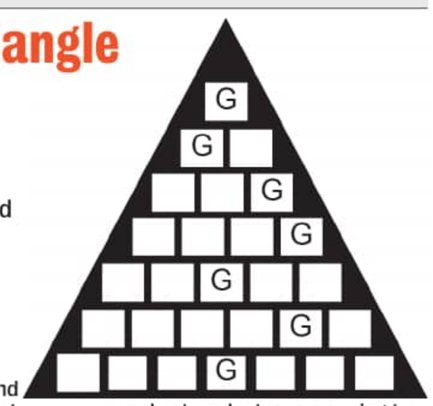
Differences: 1. Steering wheel is moved. 2. Taxi sign is moved. 3. Label is missing. 4. Buttons are added 5. Mouth is different. 6. Finger is moved.

Riddler

I pounce and I snarl, Then come in with a roar. I assemble and marshal The troops off to war. I form up the band That parades down the street. But, at the end of my time, I recede with a bleat. Who or what am I?

Alpha triangle

1 Gravity, symbol
2 Guam .. abbr
3 Pull laboriously
4 Bullet; swig
5 Sleds
6 Thick greasy mud
7 Stout clubs

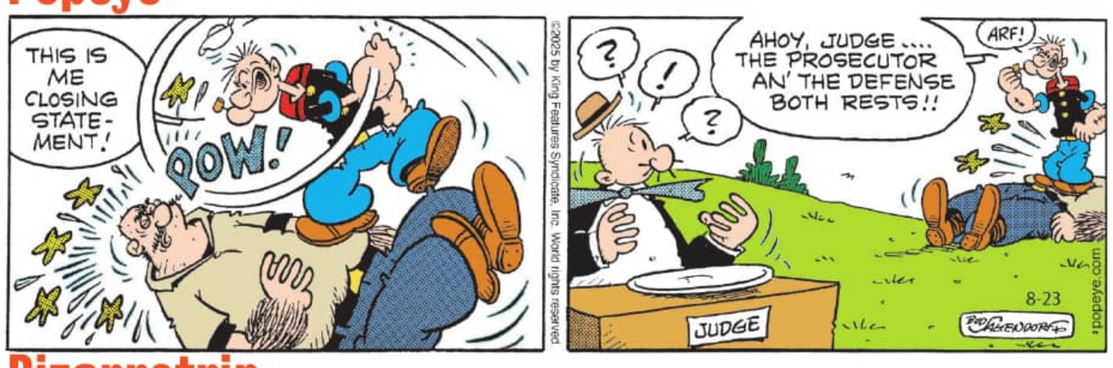


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

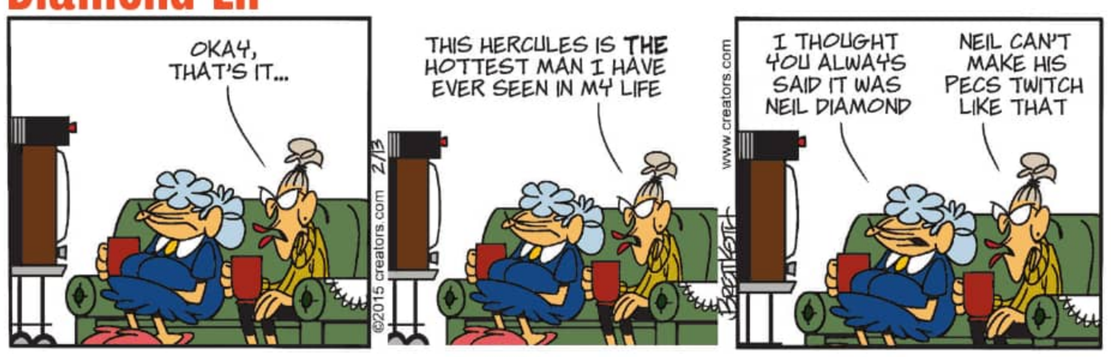
COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil


OKAY, THAT'S IT...
THIS HERCULES IS THE HOTTEST MAN I HAVE EVER SEEN IN MY LIFE
I THOUGHT YOU ALWAYS SAID IT WAS NEIL DIAMOND
NEIL CAN'T MAKE HIS PECS TWITCH LIKE THAT
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2/13
www.creators.com
Bornstein

Hart of the city

CHARLOTTE! BEFORE WE START D&D, I WANTED TO GIVE THIS TO YOU.
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
OMG! A TAROT DECK!!
A FEW WEEKS AGO, YOU SAID, "I WISH I COULD READ TAROT, CUZ IF THE PICTURES ARE THIS COOL, THE SKILL HAS GOTTA BE EVEN COOLER."
WOW, THAT SOUNDS A LOT LIKE SOMETHING I WOULD SAY!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
2/13

Crankshaft

PUT YOUR PHONES INTO THE POUCHES!
I KIND OF MISS THE DAYS WHEN ALL YOU HAD TO WORRY ABOUT WAS FIGHTS AND KIDS THROWING UP ON YOUR BUS.
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2-12
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Curiosity leads to a major lifestyle change. You may discover a new interest that eventually becomes a primary focus. This is a year of experimentation and learning. Don't feel pressured to have all the answers right now. Exploring different paths is part of the process. Your social life is vibrant, filled with intellectually stimulating and diverse new people.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

A workplace collaboration requires you to take the lead. Balance your natural authority with empathy to ensure everyone feels heard. Success depends entirely on the collective strength of your team.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Your career path feels more defined today. Take a small step toward a long-held ambition. Consistency is your superpower; keep building your empire one sturdy, reliable brick at a time.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

A chance meeting sparks a brilliant idea for a new project. Jot down your thoughts immediately. Your ability to think on your feet leads to an exciting new professional opportunity.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Domestic matters require your attention. Handle a home repair or reorganization task. Creating a comfortable and functional living space brings a sense of stability and peace to your daily life.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Your creative talents are recognized and celebrated. Share your work with a wider audience. The positive feedback you receive boosts your confidence and inspires you to keep creating beautiful things.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Analytical thinking helps you solve a complex problem at work. Your attention to detail is unmatched. Your colleagues appreciate your ability to find logical solutions to even the toughest challenges.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Focus on balance in all areas of your life. Ensure you are getting enough rest, exercise, and social interaction. Maintaining a healthy equilibrium is the key to your overall well-being.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Intense passion drives you toward a personal goal. Don't let anything stand in your way. Your determination and focus ensure that you achieve exactly what you set out to do.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Learning a new skill brings a sense of accomplishment. Take a class or watch a tutorial. Expanding your knowledge base opens up new possibilities for your personal and professional growth.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Financial planning pays off as you see your savings grow. Stay disciplined and stick to your goals. Your long-term security is well worth the effort you are putting in now.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Your unique perspective is valued in a group discussion. Don't be afraid to share your unconventional ideas. Your innovative thinking could lead to a major breakthrough for the entire team.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Compassion for yourself and others is your guiding light. Practice kindness in all your interactions. Your gentle spirit brings comfort to those around you and creates a more peaceful world.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE

Ishita Singh, 9 Years, Delhi Public Schoo

Mansi. R Chhabria, 9 Years, Baldwin Girls High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

[(2³)^⅔ × (2¹)^½] / [(2⁵)^-½]
(2² × 2^⅔) / (2^-⅔)
(2^⅔ × 2^⅔) / 2^-⅔
(2^½) / 2^-⅓
2^½ + ⅔ = 2^1⅙
=(2^1) = 32

BULL'S EYE

fare, fear, feel, feral, fewer, flare, flaw, flea, flee, flew, free, leaf, reef, wafer, WELFARE

FAST FIVE

P	A	N	I	C
L	L	A	N	O
A	G	I	S	T
S	A	R	E	E
H	E	A	T	S

STRIKE OUT

M	A	N	D	I	B	L	E	F	A	C	E
A	A	A	I	O	D	I	C	X		
Y	A	T	A	G	H	A	N	L	E	V	I
O	A	O	B	C	U	R	L				
R	O	L	E	C	L	A	Y	M	O	R	E
L	O	N	G	E	I	L	E	A	C	I	D
	R	A	E	C	L	I	D				
E	P	I	S	O	D	E	S	E	T	N	A
M	O	M	L	Z	E	I					
A	P	C	A	W	P	I	I	R			
D	A	R	N	O	H	M	M	E	T	E	R
O	O	D	D	L	Y	P	H	A			
W	I	N	Y	D	R	E	S	S	E	R	S

QUICK

		T		S		T				
	W	H	I	T	E	E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T
		G		A		E		N		D		O	
	K	I	L	O		P	A	R	S	N	I	P	S
		T		L		S		U		A			
	D	R	I	F	T		C	O	M	P	E	T	E
		I				G		M				N	
	H	A	L	C	Y	O	N		O	S	T	E	O
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	S	W	A	N	L	A	K	E		I	B	I	D
		E		C		L		B		R		N	
	A		P		A		E		S			L	

MENSA PUZZLE

37. As you go down, double the previous number and subtract 5.

RIDDLER March

QUOTE UNCODE

Expect the best. Prepare for the worst. Capitalize on what comes.

SUDOKU

6	7	8	2	9	5	3	1	4
3	5	9	1	6	4	8	7	2
2	1	4	8	3	7	9	5	6
8	3	7	9	1	6	4	2	5
4	2	5	7	8	3	6	9	1
1	9	6	4	5	2	7	3	8
7	8	1	6	2	9	5	4	3
9	6	3	5	4	1	2	8	7
5	4	2	3	7	8	1	6	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE

G, Gu, Lug, Slug, Luges, Sludge, Gudgels.

GO FIGURE

Easy
8 - 3 - 2 + 1 = 4
Medium
9 - 2 + 7 + 9 = 23
Hard
8 + 6 - 5 x 4 = 36

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Insta gone 'Maatrubhumi' star Salman Khan's Instagram vanishes for 30 minutes; fans await clarification from the superstar

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

B'day surprise

On the occasion of Vijay Raghavendra's birthday, the Mahaan team extended their wishes by unveiling a special poster. Vijay Raghavendra, who portrayed a progressive farmer in the film, brought to life a story that delivers an inspiring message to farming communities in rural areas. The movie was helmed by PC Shekhar, whose previous directorial venture was Bad, featuring Nakul Gowda and Manvitha Kamath in the lead roles.

"Mahaan is my 11th movie as a director. This movie is quite different and unique among the movies I directed till date. A woman farmer from North Karnataka and a progressive farmer from Andhra Pradesh are my inspiration to write the script for this movie," said director PC Shekhar.

The director said Vijay Raghavendra is playing such a role for the first time. "I am aware of Vijay Raghavendra acting in movies based on agriculture but the movie Mahaan is quite different from those movies. It explores avenues for farmers to become successful in agriculture," the director said. He said a major part of the shooting took place in and around Mandya. "I want to thank producer Prakash Buddur for providing all amenities during the shooting. I also want to thank the cast and crew for their support and hard work," he added.

Melody unveiled

The team behind the forthcoming Kannada film Dodmansa unveiled its duet song at Utsav Legacy on Friday. Sharath Krishna, who not only directs the movie but also plays the lead role, is joined by Reshma and Shilpa as the heroines. The duet track is said to have been picturised against the scenic backdrops of Gujarat, adding visual charm to the melody. The project is backed by Vedik Veera under the Vedic Cosmos banner.

"I am very happy to have the title 'Dodmansa' which was meant for a movie led by the late Vishnuvardhan. The team of this movie is lucky to have this title. The movie is about respecting good people irrespective of their financial status. I am sure audiences will support this movie because of its script," said Sharath Krishna. The director said that he has plans to organise a special screening for auto drivers across eight districts in the state.

Actress Reshma said that all the cast and crew members worked very hard for the film. "The movie has a good message. It showcases what are the problems I have to face for falling in love with an auto rickshaw driver," she said.

Hustle never stops

Actress Mouni Roy opens up about her journey and relentless pursuit for work

Mouni Roy has opened up about her long move from television to films and said she still wants to do more as an actor. The actor, who recently attended the Cannes Film Festival 2026, spoke about the years it took her to shift from TV to movies and the labels she faced along the way. Mouni said she remains ambitious, hungry for good work and ready to take on different roles across films and streaming projects.

Journey from TV to films

In a conversation with Brut, Mouni Roy reflected on her career, saying it took her 9 years to transition from television to films. She said, "I am very, very hungry for work."

Mouni became a household name on television with shows such as 'Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi', 'Devon Ke Dev... Mahadev' and 'Naagin'. She later moved to films and worked in projects such as 'Gold ', 'Made in China', 'Brahmastra' and 'The Bhootnii'.

The actor also spoke about how people judged her through different phases of her career. She said, "I have been typecast since the beginning of my career. When I did Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, people said the girl next door can't play a glam part. When I did a few reality shows, dance reality shows, they said I was too glamorous. When I did Sati, they said I was too Indian. When I did Naagin, it was 'she can only do fantasy fiction or mythological shows'. That's something I've always dealt with, and it doesn't really bother me."

Typecasting in the industry

Mouni said such labels no longer define her choices. She said, "It doesn't matter whether you call me glamorous, stylish or anything else – like saying she's good for a certain kind of role."

She added, "When I did Brahm stra or Bhootnii, they said she's good for these... not larger-than-life, but more outlandish roles. She can play these parts well. As long as – whether it's glam, outlandish, girl next door or dancing – if you can see that I'm putting in my hard work and 100 per cent and it resonates with the audience, that's my takeaway from it."

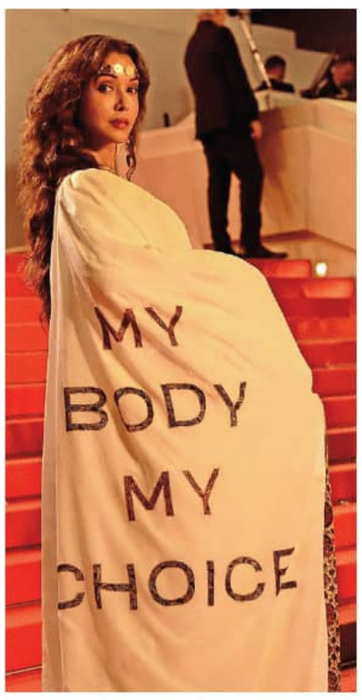
On the work front, Mouni is currently seen in 'Salakaar'. The show also stars Naveen Kasturia, Asrar Khan, Janhavi Hardas, Mukesh Rishi and Kuldeep Sareen. She will next be seen in David Dhawan's 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai', co-starring Varun Dhawan, Pooja Hegde and Mrunal Thakur. — **ETimes**

Statement look indeed

Anupria Goenka made her Cannes Film Festival debut with a look centred on the theme 'My Body, My Choice'. The actress attended the festival for her film Bombay Stories, screened at the Marche du Film section. Inspired by Saadat Hasan Manto's short story Hatak, the film sees her play a sex worker — a subject that shaped the concept behind her red-carpet appearance.

Anupria wore an Indo-Western ensemble featuring ajrakh embroidery and a sari-inspired silhouette. One side of the outfit reflected the image of a conventionally acceptable woman, while the other created a bare-chest illusion to highlight how perceptions change based on appearance.

"Since Cannes is a huge global platform, I wanted my appearance to stand for something meaningful. The idea was to express a belief I feel strongly about — that a woman should have complete agency over her own body and choices," she added. The actress said the white palette represented the idea of purity imposed on women, while red accents symbolised judgement and stigma.



Anupria added that working on Bombay Stories gave her insight into the lives of sex workers, making the message behind the look more personal. — **ETimes**

BTS video reignites dance debate

Actress Ananya Panday has become the subject of intense online discussion following the release of her latest film, 'Chand Mera Dil'. A dance sequence featuring the actress has gone viral, attracting criticism from many who questioned the presentation of a performance inspired by Bharatanatyam. Shortly after clips from the sequence began circulating online, users started sharing their reactions, with many expressing disappointment over the execution. While some viewers criticised Ananya's movements, others argued that the choreography deserved greater scrutiny.

As criticism continued to grow, a behind-the-scenes video from the shoot surfaced online and reignited the discussion. The clip offered a closer look at how the dance sequence was designed, leading many to reconsider where responsibility should lie. Some felt the choreography failed to capture the essence of Bharatanatyam, while others believed the performer also had a responsibility to understand the dance form. — **ETimes**